

News

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HIGHLIGHTS OF MILWAUKEE-RACINE, WI NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2002

Workers in the Milwaukee-Racine metropolitan area averaged \$19.26 per hour during September 2002, according to a new survey released by the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Peter J. Hebein reported that white-collar workers averaged \$23.65 per hour and accounted for 52 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$15.66 per hour and represented 32 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$10.72 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for all occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 410 firms representing 457,600 workers in the Milwaukee-Racine metropolitan area, which includes Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, and Waukesha Counties. Eighty-three percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Milwaukee-Racine metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 64 detailed occupations. Among white-collar workers, industrial engineers averaged \$25.93 per hour; accountants and auditors, \$21.50; and production coordinators, \$14.98. Blue-collar occupations included electricians earning \$23.75 per hour; punching and stamping press operators at \$16.31; and hand packers and packagers, \$10.38. In the service occupations, cooks averaged \$10.70 and nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$10.09.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Milwaukee-Racine area averaged \$20.44 per hour and part-timers earned \$11.13. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$17.95 per hour, while their non-union counterparts made \$13.59. Private industry workers in establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$15.30 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$21.78.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Milwaukee-Racine, WI National Compensation Survey September 2002 (Bulletin 3115-58). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the BLS Information Office in Chicago by calling 312-353-1880. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm. Survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service by dialing (312) 353-1880, menu option 1. Up to five documents at a time may be selected and faxed to you within minutes, 24 hours a day.

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For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Chicago Information Office at (312) 353-1880 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

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Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Milwaukee-Racine, WI, September 2002

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$19.26	3.7	\$18.74	4.4	\$22.31	0.7
All excluding sales	19.38	4.0	18.85	4.8	22.31	.7
White collar	23.65	2.8	23.34	3.5	24.88	.7
White collar excluding sales	24.47	2.8	24.36	3.6	24.88	.7
Professional specialty and technical	27.58	2.2	27.84	2.8	26.87	1.5
Professional specialty	29.03	2.4	29.67	3.3	27.56	1.2
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	34.32	9.5	34.47	9.5	—	—
Electrical and electronic engineers	34.25	14.7	34.25	14.7	—	—
Industrial engineers	25.93	1.7	25.93	1.7	—	—
Mechanical engineers	36.77	31.0	36.77	31.0	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	29.50	1.8	29.50	1.8	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	29.62	1.9	29.62	1.9	—	—
Natural scientists	30.88	13.9	34.67	18.0	—	—
Health related	25.29	5.2	25.71	5.5	—	—
Registered nurses	25.09	.7	25.20	.7	—	—
Teachers, college and university	46.51	15.9	52.84	24.8	—	—
Other post-secondary teachers	40.10	1.9	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	28.76	3.9	—	—	30.12	1.7
Elementary school teachers	28.90	.5	—	—	29.11	.6
Secondary school teachers	32.01	.6	—	—	32.08	.5
Teachers, n.e.c.	30.75	.8	—	—	30.75	.8
Librarians, archivists, and curators	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	17.27	4.6	—	—	18.41	2.3
Social workers	17.41	5.2	—	—	18.82	2.5
Lawyers and judges	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	28.28	12.4	28.51	12.2	—	—
Technical	20.02	3.8	20.38	4.0	17.17	8.1
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	15.27	7.2	15.27	7.2	—	—
Licensed practical nurses	16.32	4.0	16.58	5.4	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	14.31	2.0	14.31	2.0	—	—
Electrical and electronic technicians	24.67	6.5	24.67	6.5	—	—
Engineering technicians, n.e.c.	23.00	4.1	—	—	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.93	3.6	30.23	4.4	34.87	5.6
Executives, administrators, and managers	34.64	4.4	34.44	5.6	35.33	5.9
Administrators and officials, public administration	32.94	9.1	—	—	32.94	9.1
Financial managers	31.94	5.7	31.94	5.7	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	37.24	5.5	—	—	38.63	4.1
Managers, medicine and health	27.52	8.3	25.71	7.7	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	37.83	6.9	38.16	7.0	—	—
Management related	24.45	4.5	24.46	4.5	—	—
Accountants and auditors	21.50	1.5	21.50	1.5	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	23.38	7.4	23.38	7.4	—	—
Purchasing agents and buyers, n.e.c.	24.11	5.1	24.11	5.1	—	—
Management related, n.e.c.	27.85	7.7	28.03	8.1	—	—
Sales	17.32	7.2	17.32	7.2	—	—
Supervisors, sales	20.38	33.2	20.38	33.2	—	—
Sales, other business services	24.76	14.6	24.76	14.6	—	—
Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale	24.70	7.7	24.70	7.7	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	9.34	9.5	9.34	9.5	—	—
Cashiers	7.64	3.9	7.64	3.9	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.61	3.8	14.74	4.5	14.03	2.9
Secretaries	14.85	4.2	15.08	5.2	13.94	2.8
Records clerks, n.e.c.	13.79	9.1	13.79	9.1	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	13.79	2.9	13.59	3.1	—	—
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	13.12	5.0	13.12	5.0	—	—
Production coordinators	14.98	2.2	14.98	2.2	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	11.66	22.5	11.66	22.5	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Milwaukee-Racine, WI, September 2002 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
White collar —Continued						
Administrative support, including clerical —Continued						
Stock and inventory clerks	\$12.76	17.6	\$12.76	17.6	—	—
General office clerks	12.47	3.9	12.19	5.7	\$12.64	5.3
Teachers' aides	12.20	9.1	—	—	12.21	9.2
Administrative support, n.e.c.	14.43	5.3	13.82	4.1	—	—
Blue collar	15.66	3.9	15.65	4.1	15.90	5.1
Precision production, craft, and repair						
Industrial machinery repairers	21.72	2.5	21.86	2.5	18.96	3.3
Electricians	25.32	7.3	25.32	7.3	—	—
Supervisors, production	23.75	2.4	23.75	2.4	—	—
Tool and die makers	22.42	5.2	22.42	5.2	—	—
.....	24.68	5.2	24.68	5.2	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors						
Punching and stamping press operators	14.20	5.3	14.20	5.3	—	—
Drilling and boring machine operators	16.31	.5	16.31	.5	—	—
Numerical control machine operators	16.17	6.0	16.17	6.0	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators	19.88	11.0	19.88	11.0	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators	12.21	12.9	12.21	12.9	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	20.13	11.6	20.13	11.6	—	—
Welders and cutters	15.17	10.0	15.17	10.0	—	—
Assemblers	16.44	10.0	16.44	10.0	—	—
.....	12.52	18.5	12.52	18.5	—	—
Transportation and material moving						
Truck drivers	17.57	7.1	17.53	7.4	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	16.84	7.8	16.73	8.1	—	—
.....	15.06	9.3	15.06	9.3	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers						
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	11.50	6.2	10.91	6.3	14.56	9.6
Hand packers and packagers	14.44	16.5	—	—	16.19	14.3
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	10.38	7.3	10.38	7.3	—	—
.....	9.42	3.6	9.07	4.9	—	—
Service						
Protective service	10.72	6.7	9.30	5.6	16.03	3.2
Guards and police, except public service	16.73	3.1	10.37	6.1	18.72	2.0
Food service	10.37	6.1	10.37	6.1	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	7.99	11.8	7.63	11.7	10.43	1.1
Waiters and waitresses	4.85	33.1	4.85	33.1	—	—
Other food service	3.89	25.4	3.89	25.4	—	—
Cooks	9.31	8.7	9.06	10.1	10.43	1.1
Food preparation, n.e.c.	10.70	3.4	—	—	—	—
Health service	7.69	11.3	—	—	—	—
Health aides, except nursing	10.34	2.9	10.27	2.9	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	12.31	7.8	12.31	7.8	—	—
Cleaning and building service	10.09	3.4	10.01	3.5	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	11.34	11.9	9.06	7.4	16.75	11.5
Personal service	10.17	6.1	8.97	5.1	13.48	3.2
Service, n.e.c.	10.03	.8	10.15	.8	—	—
.....	9.80	9.0	9.84	9.3	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Milwaukee-Racine, WI, September 2002**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$20.44	\$11.13	\$19.55	\$19.12	\$19.23	\$20.16
All excluding sales	20.42	11.68	19.59	19.28	19.44	12.70
White collar	24.59	15.33	23.58	23.66	23.72	22.21
White-collar excluding sales	24.98	18.74	23.91	24.63	24.51	—
Professional specialty and technical	28.06	23.06	28.49	27.27	27.58	—
Professional specialty	29.51	24.23	29.06	29.02	29.03	—
Technical	20.22	18.54	21.69	19.78	20.02	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.96	—	—	30.97	30.94	—
Sales	20.88	7.27	—	17.30	13.96	22.80
Administrative support, including clerical	15.01	11.13	15.55	14.27	14.65	—
Blue collar	16.29	7.41	17.95	13.59	15.63	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	21.72	—	23.01	20.48	21.72	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.29	7.06	17.36	12.22	14.21	—
Transportation and material moving	17.57	—	18.78	15.58	17.57	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	13.44	7.45	13.75	8.62	11.48	—
Service	12.27	8.44	14.73	9.21	10.82	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	4.1	5.8	2.5	4.9	3.9	13.0
All excluding sales	4.3	6.3	2.5	5.3	4.0	22.8
White collar	2.9	5.0	2.7	3.6	2.8	12.6
White-collar excluding sales	2.8	4.2	2.7	3.7	2.8	—
Professional specialty and technical	2.2	3.2	2.5	2.9	2.2	—
Professional specialty	2.6	3.1	2.3	3.4	2.4	—
Technical	4.3	7.0	13.4	3.8	3.8	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	3.6	—	—	3.7	3.6	—
Sales	12.2	2.5	—	8.1	10.2	15.7
Administrative support, including clerical	3.8	4.8	5.0	4.3	3.8	—
Blue collar	3.9	4.5	4.8	5.4	4.0	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	2.5	—	3.0	3.4	2.5	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.5	4.9	4.2	9.1	5.3	—
Transportation and material moving	7.1	—	4.5	6.3	7.1	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	6.5	4.9	8.2	4.3	6.3	—
Service	7.3	7.9	4.7	6.3	6.5	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Milwaukee-Racine, WI, September 2002**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$18.74	\$15.30	\$19.52	\$17.69	\$21.78
All excluding sales	18.85	15.30	19.58	17.63	21.77
White collar	23.34	19.48	23.97	22.24	25.88
White-collar excluding sales	24.36	22.22	24.59	23.16	25.88
Professional specialty and technical	27.84	25.44	28.09	27.05	28.85
Professional specialty	29.67	26.90	29.91	28.36	31.11
Technical	20.38	21.91	20.14	20.30	20.04
Executive, administrative, and managerial	30.23	26.67	30.65	30.29	30.96
Sales	17.32	15.35	18.57	18.33	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.74	14.67	14.75	14.23	15.40
Blue collar	15.65	14.43	16.00	14.43	18.06
Precision production, craft, and repair	21.86	21.17	22.07	20.99	23.27
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.20	12.20	15.04	14.03	17.00
Transportation and material moving	17.53	16.72	17.64	14.57	19.46
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.91	12.36	10.75	9.29	12.65
Service	9.30	7.84	9.80	9.38	10.55
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	4.4	7.6	4.5	6.7	4.7
All excluding sales	4.8	8.1	4.9	7.9	4.7
White collar	3.5	10.3	3.6	5.0	4.3
White-collar excluding sales	3.6	9.0	3.8	5.6	4.4
Professional specialty and technical	2.8	17.0	2.9	5.7	3.4
Professional specialty	3.3	22.5	3.5	6.9	3.4
Technical	4.0	9.7	4.9	6.4	6.1
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.4	6.1	4.8	5.3	7.7
Sales	7.2	16.3	8.2	8.6	—
Administrative support, including clerical	4.5	4.5	4.9	6.6	6.3
Blue collar	4.1	12.3	3.2	3.2	4.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	2.5	9.6	1.8	7.1	5.9
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.3	15.0	1.2	1.3	2.5
Transportation and material moving	7.4	6.5	7.9	6.9	4.9
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	6.3	11.2	7.2	6.4	11.8
Service	5.6	14.5	4.4	6.9	1.2

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.